



Congressman Gil Gutknecht
Congress of the United States
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

*This mailing was prepared, published
and mailed at taxpayer expense.*

Gil Gutknecht

MC

PRESORTED STANDARD

*Remember: Your congressman
is only a click away!

Save yourself time and effort
by using my website to get the
latest on what's in the news, stay
in touch with me, or simply to
cut red tape in dealing with a
federal agency.

My website is open to serve you
24 hours a day:
www.gil.house.gov



Printed on recycled paper
with agri-based ink.

CONGRESSMAN GIL GUTKNECHT, **FIRST DISTRICT, MINNESOTA**

Seniors between the ages of 65-69
take an average of 14 prescriptions a year.*
Brand-name drug prices are increasing by 6% a year.*

*Source: *Forbes*, June 5, 2006



WHAT IS CONGRESSMAN GUTKNECHT DOING TO HELP?

DEAR FRIEND,

I remain concerned about the high costs of prescription drugs. We pay on average 97% more for name-brand prescription drugs than consumers pay in Germany. While the Medicare drug benefit may save some seniors money, Congress must be certain all Americans – insured and uninsured – can easily get world-class prescription drugs at affordable prices.

That is why I authored the Pharmaceutical Market Access Act. This would allow American consumers access to FDA-approved prescription drugs from FDA-approved facilities in 25 industrialized countries, including Canada, Great Britain and Germany.

“I am working to lower the price of prescription drugs. It remains a top priority for me.”

-Congressman Gil Gutknecht

PHARMACEUTICAL DRUG COST COMPARISON		
Local Pharmacy, Eilenburg, Germany		Local Pharmacy Rochester, Minnesota
\$49.00	Nexium (30 tablets - 20 mg)	\$147.00
\$23.00	Norvasc (20 tablets - 5 mg)	\$53.00
\$20.00	Zyrtec (30 tablets - 10 mg)	\$70.00
\$26.00	Celebrex (20 tablets - 100 mg)	\$42.00
\$31.00	Zocor (30 tablets - 10 mg)	\$83.00
\$73.00	Actos (28 tablets - 15 mg)	\$107.00
\$44.00	Zoloft (20 tablets - 50 mg)	\$57.00
\$104.00	Imitrex (28 tablets - 15 mg)	\$179.00
\$26.00	Clarinet (20 tablets - 5 mg)	\$56.00
\$64.00	Lipitor (30 tablets - 20 mg)	\$114.00
TOTAL=\$460.00 Eilenburg, Germany		TOTAL=\$908.00 USA
Americans pay <u>97% more</u> on average!		

Chart source: Congressman Gutknecht, First District, Minnesota
All prices U.S. dollars. Prices effective March 20, 2006

My bill was approved by the House in the last Congress and I reintroduced this legislation in this Congress. Together with 220 other colleagues, I have asked for a vote on this bill.



Congressman Gutknecht listens to concerns about high prescription drug costs at the Good Samaritan Center in Albert Lea.


Last year, Customs agents, without any warning, began seizing mail-order prescription drugs from Canada. This change in policy jeopardized the health and lives of Minnesotans. I protested the confiscation of mail-order drugs from Canada by sending a strong letter to U.S. Customs.

On May 25, I voted to stop the confiscation of prescription drugs from Canada. This bill prevents U.S. Customs from treating citizens like criminals and seizing their mail purchases of drugs from another country. Seizing drugs at the border jeopardizes the lives of those who depend on them.

- If you are having problems receiving your imported prescriptions, please call my office at 1-800-862-8632, or share your thoughts by commenting on my Message Board at www.gil.house.gov
- To learn more about Minnesota’s link to Canadian pharmacies, visit www.minnesotarxconnect.com

Today’s seniors and tomorrow’s baby boomer retirees deserve affordable medications.

With warmest regards,


Gil Gutknecht
Member of Congress

1530 Greenview Drive SW, Suite 108, Rochester, MN 55902
800-862-8632 or 507-252-9841
425 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515
202-225 2472
109 East 2nd Street, Fairmont, MN 56035
507-238-2835